

**SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN  
(PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)**

**October 3, 2006**

**7:00 PM**

Mayor Guinta called the meeting to order.

Mayor Guinta called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by Alderman Garrity.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll. There were thirteen Aldermen present.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Long, Duval, Osborne, Pinard, O'Neil,  
Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Thibault, Forest

Absent: Alderman Smith

Mayor Guinta advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person will be given only one opportunity to speak; that comments shall be limited to three minutes to allow all participants the opportunity to speak and any comments must be directed to the Chair.

Mayor Guinta requested that any resident wishing to speak come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

Maureen Molly Lee Sherman, 444 Chestnut Street, Manchester, NH (Re: heating) stated:  
I'd like to talk about the Verizon Arena. It doesn't ever seem to be open during the day and I don't know how you get tickets to some of their events...that's it.

Colin Egan, 967 Lake Shore Road, Manchester, NH (Re: Lake Massabesic Zoning Ordinance) stated:

I'm here to state publicly that I'm not for the current water protection act as it's stated. I have a small farm over there, it's only 50 acres. I'm against it because it far reaches any state regulations or recommendations in reference to the Norman Dadeau report that the Water Works actually had and I hope the Board has the three reports that I provided and I made copies for each Board member...that's the current law as it's stated. No where in the current law does it go beyond 300 feet. They're talking about ranges of 2,000 feet and more. My property is closer to the industrial park than it is to the lake and I have a well on my property. Our family has lived there only about 80+ years now so I want to protect my well

so if you apply these standards to each and every well in the city are you going to put radiuses around each well and stop any industrial use. I think that the use in adding a 2,000 foot distance from the shoreline...according to the Nadeau report there's four criteria's that they go for for this critical area and the first area is the 1986 Safety Drinking Water Act which is 4,000 feet from the head so there's a radius that goes around. For some reason the Water Works is exempt...Hazelton's who has a known leaking problem at their site...I am not in that area. The Shoreland Protection Act by the state is a state law that covers 250 from the shoreland protection...steeps slopes more than 15 degrees...these are recommendations from a professional engineering firm that the state and the city paid for for a 128-page report. The 15% slopes are to prevent erosions in the protected area...my property doesn't have it and neither do any of the properties on Candia Road. I'd like to draw your attention to the second report that I presented to you is the WS386 Rules in particular 386.47 pertains to the Manchester Water Works the Lake Massabesic area...rules and regulations are covering for 250 feet. It covers all towns in this state no where does it exceed 300 feet. The last report that I'd like to bring your attention to is the Model Watershed Program...that has recommendations on pages 6, 7 and 9 for up to 300 feet. This is what Environmental Services recommends. I only ask the Board tonight to delay this vote, to have some public input and not to be under pressure like this, to be able to actually have a dialogue and hear the facts. There are no leaking tanks out at the Massabesic Circle, there are brand new tanks out there, pressurized, computerized, hooked to a phone so if anything happens to the outside tank it's fiberglass. Most tanks failed because the old tanks were rusty. These new tanks are not the same standard as they were 40 years ago. Thank you very much.

Eric Sawyer, 40 Wilmot Street, Manchester, NH (Re: ADA/Public Meetings) stated:  
I come to you tonight as Chairman of Access Manchester which is a city organization formed to advise the Board of Mayor and Aldermen on issues related to ADA statutes and other issues for disabled in the city. The lack of para-transit has effectively locked the disabled of attending public hearings within the city. There's been a number of public hearings lately that either the notice has been too late that there's no para-transit available they will have a real significant impact on the disabled. The City's new Master Plan last night...zoning variances and building permit fees, taxi fees, the Mayor's Outreach program. All of these programs the disabled would like to participate in yet the lack of effective para-transit has prohibited them from doing so. One solution would be to ask MTA to provide Step Saver. Sixty-thirty in the evening is the cutoff; the Board would have to talk to them about how to extend that. Some other solutions would be to provide greater notice time because to provide for private para-transit normally takes 72 hours to three weeks to arrange and one of the ways you could do that is to mail the City schedule in the sewer and water bills. I know that the City puts the notices on the internet but most of the disabled and elderly do not have internet access and oftentimes there's very little substantial data there...just basically lists the name of the meeting. So, in short, through no intent on anybody's part the disabled have essentially been blocked out of participating in public

meetings particularly Board meetings like this. Although the letter of the ADA law is being met the spirit is not so I need to bring that to your attention. Thank you.

Glenn Ouellette, 112 Auburn Street #2, Manchester, NH (Re: Police in schools, traffic, JFK Coliseum) stated:

I want to start out by reading a statement. Today the Amish community hoped to create a sanctuary for the living and simple and vowing crime is non-existent. But, as evil surrounds us all sadly enough crime can escape even the innocent. This was a horrendous and horrific incident that the Amish community place yesterday. Please I ask you to contact your School Board elected officials and ask them to please reconsider putting back all police officers and other security policies in place for the safety of our children in our schools within this community. We cut in the wrong places and then when things happen we're shocked. Well, 42 schools across the country since May of last year have had something like this happen. Some have been better off some have been worse. Let's not wait; let's not pinch pennies. The JFK...I'm glad that some of you have come around and finally realize that that is an asset to our community. Let me say that if it is unfair to put a second school in the same neighborhood as the old Weston Fire Station it is just as unjustified to put a second school right in the same area of Beech Street School. Let's stop the bickering. I know we're lacking land but not to that extent. There is enough room there to build a school without tearing down. This City is becoming to be known in this state as tearing things down. We build; we destroy before the full use of these buildings have been used. Forty years old is not a long time. In fact, most of you on this Board are at least 40 if not older and we're still in working condition. And, I'm saying this kindly. A lot of us in the neighborhood are getting tired of these buildings being torn down. Of course, you wait years down the road when there so dilapidated. Let's do the responsible thing and upkeep the interest of this City. Parking...you've been talking about parking now since the spring of this year...get with it. It's taking too long to negotiate. The last thing I want to say is when you work on a project like you did at the corner of Beech and Chestnut Streets and you spent thousands of taxpayer's money to improve a neighborhood why don't you consider the neighborhood. Nobody came to our neighborhood. We now have a light that flickers constantly...in the daytime it's not bad but at night it flashes in the bedrooms of our neighbors...highly inconsiderate and you did not put cross lights there. The two to three thousand people that walk away from the Verizon at the end of an event all at one time to get back into the inner-city will have the same problem they had last winter...the horns will beep and they'll have no place to walk because there's no traffic lights for walkers. How inconsiderate. Thank you.

Richard Duckoff, 380 No. Ray Street, Manchester, NH (Re: Saturday parking, West Salmon Street, granite monument) stated:

There are three or four items I'd like to bring to the attention of the Board tonight. The first regards the issue of paying for parking on Saturday. I ask the Board to oppose this for the following reasons. Parking meters are to regulate parking and not to collect revenue. An

Alderman who thinks otherwise, in my view, simply doesn't get it. At some future date when plastic can be used in Smart Meters it might be a good idea and a good time to review the issue but not until then. The Verizon Arena and the Fisher Cats Stadium have made Manchester a designation City. Let's not jeopardize that by turning the clock back to creating revenue in the wrong manner. Second item...West Salmon Street...picture yourself driving from Elm Street and turning to go over the Amoskeag Bridge...picture that. Just after turning there is a median strip with two parallel rows of curbing between which there is poured concrete. My wife and others think that the failure to remove the weeds from this strip and debris says to visitors that this is a derelict City. Intown Manchester downtown looks beautiful but the entryways frankly look like H...E...L...L. I know that a letter has gone to Parks and Recreation on this matter from a neighbor. I frankly myself was rebuffed when I spoke to Parks and Recreation and basically told that they were shorthanded and would do it when they got around to it and why didn't I speak quote "to Mr. Roy". I spoke to my Alderman and he didn't discourage me in any way from bringing this up tonight. The Amoskeag Bridge is an entryway to the City. Alderman Pat Long I'm sure shares my desire to see that this matter is speedily addressed so that the strip is cleaned up. As it now stands the Aldermen have been singled out as the sole cause for the failure to clean up this area. This is wrong. Third item...the Granite monument that reads "Welcome to Manchester" used to be positioned on a diagonal at the northwest corner of Elm and Salmon Streets before Brady/Sullivan purchased the old New Hampshire Insurance building. Brady/Sullivan has replaced it with an LED sign that advertises its properties and has moved the monument down the street westerly from its former location. Therefore, if a visitor to the City were to look past risking an accident he might, he just might have time to read the words "Welcome to Manchester" as he's leaving the City. I was going to add here that Mickey Mouse is alive and well and living somewhere near the Amoskeag Bridge but I decided not to include that so I didn't put it in. I ask this Board to correct this embarrassment. I have no doubt that Brady/Sullivan would be delighted if the City could have the monument moved to another of the entryways to the City. It should not take a space scientist to solve this problem or should it be necessary to hire a consultant. This is another embarrassment to the City that can be swiftly corrected and I ask the Board to look into this. It's an opportunity to do something creative and the cost is low. Thank you.

Will Stewart, 20 Merrimack Street, Manchester, NH (Re: resident parking on Elm Street) stated:

I'm here representing Manchester Neighborhood Housing Services and that is located at 20 Merrimack Street. I come before you tonight to bring attention to the Board the parking situation in front of two of MNHS's affordable housing properties. Given that these properties known as Renaissance V and Renaissance 2000 comprise all but a fraction of the Dow Street to Langdon Street block, the west side of Elm Street it seems reasonable that the residents of these properties should be eligible for parking permits that can be used in the 16 metered parking spaces that span the block. It is my understanding that the reason this is not the case today is that this area is technically part of the City's Central Business District. In

reality, however, the Dow Street to Langdon Street block is decidedly residential. The need for on street parking for businesses simply does not exist. There's one business there and it has parking in the rear of the building. In this respect the block is not at all like the rest of the Central Business District. Indeed the Dow Street to Langdon Street block is quite unique and deserves to be treated as such with regard to residential parking. Thank you for consideration of this proposal and I ask each of you for your support when this matter comes before the Board. Thank you.

Sue Butler, 889 Elm Street (Intown Manchester) stated:

I am here on behalf of Intown Manchester. As you'll notice you've all received a packet...Intown Manchester's 2006 Summer Review. I want to start by, of course, thanking all of you for your support and for the CIP support because without that none of these programs would be possible. And, I'd love it if you could take a quick second to take a look at the first two pages if that's all you have time for. We've tried to put together a summary of all the things that have happened in our office event wise between March and September and as you can see we've had quite a busy summer and a great summer at that. We averaged about a thousand people at each concert for the Thursday Night Live Concert Series that the City funds. We had thousands of residents and downtown workers who got to enjoy our Buskers on the Brick Series this summer and we had a record one thousand people at our Taste of Downtown Manchester this fall. I don't know if any of you had the chance to attend but it was definitely our biggest and best event to date. You'll also notice that we have a breakdown of attendance just so you can see. We ran some surveys during the concerts of City zip code, age and frequency of attendance. And, you'll also see that we did a small capture from our website statistics and you can see how much website traffic has increased over the past three years. It is seven times greater just in that three month span than it was three years ago when we first launched our website. So, it is definitely proving that more and more people are interested in what's going on in Downtown Manchester and I think you'll agree with me that Manchester is definitely becoming the place to be in New Hampshire. And, in closing I'd just like to say that you know we work really hard at Intown because we love what we do and we believe in what we do and we thank you for letting us be a part of it. Thank you.

Grace Sullivan, Director of MCTV, 530 So. Taylor Street, Manchester, NH (Re: elections) stated:

I'm representing Manchester Community Television and what I would like to do is talk about MCTV Government Access Channel 22. This year we sent out our yearly candidate statement offering for people that are running for office whether it's City as all of you would have gotten those last year or this year for Governor, Senators, State Senate, Executive Council, 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional House Representative, Hillsborough County offices and all of the State Representatives free time. For the first time we did not send them out in City Clerk envelopes. We were asked to send them out in Manchester Community Television envelopes and we did that and we are not getting the response that we did last year so I am

using what most people watch on Government Access Channel 22 the Aldermanic meeting to get my message out. If you are running for an office please call, we started this week and we have openings on Friday, October 6th from 9 to 5. We have Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 5, Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 8 and Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 8 PM. We do this, MCTV does this to encourage participation in the election and democracy. Last year during the budget hearings one of the kids got up and said I was a first time voter and I got to sit down and look at the candidates and the issues on MCTV and that was a real big help. So, please feel free open your envelopes we're not asking for money. We're giving you free time to make candidates statements. One of the things that has also come up that people have contacted me about...they've asked me, they've been contacted about whether or not MCTV is soliciting money for a youth project. We are not...Channel 16 is not doing that. We have two after-school projects that are free, we're not doing that nor have we endorsed that project. And, the one thing that I did want to say is I've been doing a lot of taping lately because we've been down staff...today I went out and taped throughout the City of Manchester and saw beautiful parks that we have from the east side to the south side to the west side and it just amazes me still after all these years what a great City we have, what great neighborhoods we have and we go out and see Livingston and McIntyre and Southwest Little League and the great work that city officials and Parks and Recreation people and the volunteers do it's a privilege to work for this City. Thank you very much.

Mel Christy, 2180 Candia Road, Manchester, NH (Re: Lake Massabesic Zoning Ordinance) stated:

I own the commercial property located at 2180 Candia Road at the Massabesic Traffic Circle. I'm here to speak against the Massabesic Watershed amendment. Mayor Guinta, you had stated during the first meeting that individuals would be allowed to ask Mr. Bowen a few questions during the second hearing. Since that opportunity was not afforded to anyone I would like to state my questions to the Board and let them decide if answers are necessary. Mr. Bowen has pressing concerns that our water supply yet why wasn't action taken over the last 30 years when dozens of neighborhood residents met more than once with past mayors, aldermen and water works to bring city sewerage to this water area. At every meeting we were told by the Water Works that our water was not affected or at any risk even with all three gas stations in place not to mention one of them forced to close over 20 years ago due to long-term leaking of gasoline. Why wasn't action taken at that time after the major leak or before other gas stations were constructed. The Chairman at our second hearing stated only a few property owners showed concern enough to attend that hearing. Is it a surprise when all the gas stations and car washes already are in place and only a few owners are affected by this proposed change. This brings to mind yet another question why is there such urgency when just a few commercial owners are affected. Why permanently detract their property values. Why hasn't documentation been presented backing up Mr. Bowen's claims? His word is what the Board is basing their decision all without any specific factual documentation. In the court of law this would be considered hearsay. Lastly, I've never heard or read about any people getting sick or dying from gas contaminated water yet many

have become sickened or died from E-Coli yet Manchester as the largest City in the state has yet to provide City sewerage to our watershed that protects our precious drinking water. I'm asking the Board to place a hold on this amendment until concrete facts are presented regarding the risks and assume contamination occurring from the present gas stations. Our priority should be expediting city sewerage to protect any E-Coli contamination to our water supply. Thank you very much.

There being no one else present wishing to speak, on motion of Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business was presented and on motion of Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Garrity it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk